

# FRYE LIGHTS

APRIL 2007 VOLUME V ISSUE 4



### SERVING

**Bay Ho** 

**Bay Park** 

Birdland

De Anza

Clairemont

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

**Mission Valley** 

Mission Bay Park

**Mission Village** 

Morena

Serra Mesa

**Stonecrest** 

Villa Morena

## Your Right to Know is Still at Risk!

The debate about the publics' role regarding budget authority is scheduled for a City Council hearing on **Tuesday, April 10 at 11am.** If you have been following this issue in the February and March issues of *Frye Lights,* you will recall that there were two competing ordinances. Item 331 is the original ordinance that would require a public hearing if the annual budget is materially changed from what was originally approved.

I am asking that you attend the hearing, send an e-mail, make a phone call or send a fax and make your opinion heard in support of the Public Right to Know by supporting Item 331. The elected officials contact information is provided on page 2.

You can also visit my City Council website at: www.sandiego.gov/cd6 to obtain more background on this issue. Just go to the left-hand side of my home page and there is a box that you can click on to read the February and March issues of *Frye Lights*.

The outcome of this vote will help determine whether the public interest will be served, how much information will be provided in advance of changing the approved city budget and whether the public's right to participate in the decision-making process will be protected.



The public has a right to know how its tax dollars are being spent, before, and not after, that decision is made. The compromise language (Item 330) is not in the best interests of the public and not in the spirit of open government. Instead, it allows one branch of government to make budget decisions behind closed doors, thereby limiting the public's right to know and participate. What is the point of having months of public budget hearings if, after the budget is approved, the executive branch of government can do what it wants with little or no public input?

Open government and the public's right to know matter because having access to government information empowers the public and ensures that you have a voice in how your tax dollars are spent. Please don't let your voice go unheard!

	Thi		



# **City Official Contact List**



**Mayor Jerry Sanders** 

Phone: (619) 236-6330 Fax: (619) 236-7228

Email: JerrySanders@sandiego.gov



**District 1** 

**Councilmember Scott Peters** 

Phone: (619) 236-6611

Fax: (619) 236-6999

Email: ScottPeters@sandiego.gov

**District 2** 

**Councilmember Kevin Faulconer** 

Phone: (619) 236-6622

Fax: (619) 236-6996

Email: KevinFaulconer@sandiego.gov

**District 3** 

**Councilmember Toni Atkins** 

Phone: (619) 236-6633

Fax: (619) 595-1481

Email: ToniAtkins@sandiego.gov

District 4

**Councilmember Anthony Young** 

Phone: (619) 236-6644

Fax: (619) 236-7273

Email: AnthonyYoung@sandiego.gov

District 5

**Councilmember Brian Maienschein** 

Phone: (619) 236-6655

Fax: (619) 238-0915

Email: BMaienschein@sandiego.gov

**District 6** 

**Councilmember Donna Frye** 

Phone: (619) 236-6616

Fax: (619) 236-7329

Email: DonnaFrye@sandiego.gov

District 7

**Councilmember Jim Madaffer** 

Phone: (619) 236-6677

Fax: (619) 238-1360

Email: JMadaffer@sandiego.gov

**District 8** 

**Councilmember Ben Hueso** 

Phone: (619) 236-6688

Fax: (619) 231-7918

Email: BenHueso@sandiego.gov

For reference, on Tuesday, April 10, 2007 at 11:00 am, the City Council will be voting on Item #331. This item would require a public hearing if the annual budget is materially changed from what is originally approved by the Council.

Please do not let your voice go unheard. Phone, fax, email or attend Tuesday's meeting to support Item #331 and protect the Public's Right to Know.

By working together, we can help ensure that public is allowed to continue participating in a meaningful way. Thank you for your help and support.



### FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 BUDGET PROCESS - KEY DATES

Each year, many of you attend the City Council and Committee meetings to voice your concerns and offer suggestions regarding the upcoming budget. This year, I need you more than ever! The following list shows the dates of the City's budget discussions and what department's will be addressed.

# Please be advised that these dates are tentative. To confirm dates and times, contact my office at (619) 236-6616.

Mayor Sanders unveils his budget
Mayor Sanders presents his budget to City Council
Chief Financial Officer presents further detail on Mayor's budget to the Budget Review Committee, including data on Five-Year Outlook, Eight Significant Areas, Assumptions, and Corrective Actions
Budget Review Committee: Evening Community Budget Forum (Location TBA)
Independent Analyst's Preliminary Report on Mayor's Budget Issued
<b>Budget Review Committee Hearing: Neighborhood and Customer Services.</b> Includes Parks and Recreation; Library; Customer Services including Community Service Centers and Disabled Services; Arts and Culture; Special Events
<b>Budget Review Committee Hearing: Public Works, Business and Supportive Services.</b> Includes Engineering and Capital Projects, including Capital Improvement Projects; Environmental Services; General Services, including Stormwater, Facilities, Streets, Fleet Services and Publishing; Water and Wastewater
Budget Review Committee Hearing: Public Safety & Homeland Security, SDCERS, Business & Support Services. Includes Homeland Security; Police; Fire-Rescue; Emergency Medical Services and San Diego Medical Services Enterprise; Administration; Human Resources; Information & Technology; Date Processing Corporation; Office of the Chief Information Officer, including Enterprise Resource Planning; Purchasing and Contracting; San Diego City Employees Retirement System Administratrion; Qualcomm Stadium and Petco Park
Budget Review Committee Hearing: Land Use and Economic Development, Office of the Mayor, City Council, Independent Budget Analyst, City Attorney. Includes Development Services; Planning & Community Investment; Real Estate Assets; Neighborhood Code Compliance; Ethics Commission; Office of Ethics & Integrity; Office of the Mayor; Community & Legislative Services; Finance/Chief Financial Officer, including Auditor and Comptroller, City Treasurer, Financial Management, Debt Management; City Attorney
Full Council Hearing: SEDC, CCDC, Redevelopment Agency, Housing Commission (pending approval)
Council Budget Priority Memorandum due to Council President and Mayor's Consolidated Technical Revisions Report due to IBA
Full Council Deliberations on Budget
Independent Budget Analyst's report on Recommendations to the Mayor's Budget
Budget Review Committee considers final modifications to Mayor's Budget
Full Council Decisions on Final Budget Modifications
Mayor's Veto Period Begins
Budget and Finance Committee Meeting

Introduction of Appropriation Ordinance

Adoption of Appropriation Ordinance

Mon, July 16

Mon, July 23



# Sunroad Office Tower Hazard to Air Navigation and Public Safety

On April 3, I was joined by the Community Airfields Association, the Experimental Aircraft Association and many other members of the aviation community for a news conference. At the news conference, we asked Mayor Sanders to enforce the stop work orders on the Sunroad Office Tower, and for Sunroad to behave as a good corporate citizen. To date, neither has happened.

If you have been following this story in the media, you know that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has determined that the building is a hazard to air navigation. I believe that the City of San Diego has a responsibility to work with the FAA and enforce the stop work orders.

Unfortunately, the developer claims there is no safety issue and continues working to finish the building. It is time for Surroad to be a good corporate citizen and remove the top two floors of their building.

Local pilot and President of the Community Airfields Association, Rick Beach, who also teaches flight safety and aeronautical decision-making to pilots, joined me at the news conference and made the following comments:

"Pilots follow FAA rules to fly safely. We expect developments near airports, where we land and take off, to also follow FAA rules to ensure the safety of everyone in the air, in the buildings, and on the ground. If an airplane accident happens, the probable cause will say 'Pilot failed to avoid the building' rather than 'What fool allowed them to place a tall building that close to the airport?"

Gerald Blank, who is an instrument rated pilot and Treasurer and legal counsel for the Community Airfields Association agreed and added the following comments:

"The trail of documents is clear and unmistakable. Sunroad knew long before it built the building that it would be a hazard to aircraft and the public in and around the building. It built it anyway, and hoped no one would care or notice. It was wrong. No developer in the history of the Federal Aviation Administration has ever ignored a hazard designation, until now. Sunroad should admit its mistake, remove the top two floors in the interest of public safety, and move on. That's the right thing to do."

For your information, I have provided a brief timeline of events. To view the documents referenced in the timeline go to:

www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6/pdf/press/070403.pdf

The Community Airfields Association of San Diego website has more detailed information and documents: <a href="https://www.sdairfields.org">www.sdairfields.org</a>



Photo Courtesy of Rick Beach



### Sunroad Timeline

April 5, 2006: Sunroad submits an application to the FAA for a proposed structure with a maximum structure height of 180 feet.

April 24, 2006: The FAA responds to Sunroad's application by issuing a **Notice of Presumed Hazard** stating in part that, "Initial findings of this study indicated that the structure as described exceeds obstruction standards"...and "the structure is presumed to be a hazard to air navigation."

June 20, 2006: Sunroad sends letter to FAA stating in part that they are, "...reviewing the data that was submitted"... and "in the meantime, we agree to the 160 foot height..."

June 22, 2006: Sunroad submits a revised application to the FAA for a proposed structure with a maximum structure height of 160 feet.

June 27, 2006: FAA responds with a "Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation" at the proposed 160 feet.

July 26, 2006: Sunroad submits application to FAA with structure height at 180 feet, citing that "Additional height required to accommodate planned structure dictated by land availability and location".

August 11, 2006: The FAA responds with a **"Determination of Hazard to Air Navigation"** with a building at 180 feet. The Determination letter states that the decision by the FAA may be appealed; otherwise, the determination will become final on September 20, 2006. Sunroad has not appealed this determination.

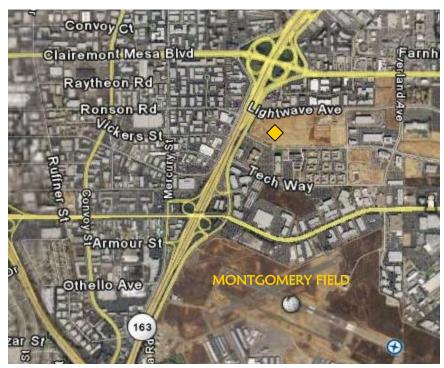
October 27, 2006: The City of San Diego Development Services Department (DSD) issues a "**Stop Work Notice**" to Sunroad for the top 17 feet of the building.

December 13, 2006: DSD issues another **"Stop Work Notice"** changing the notice from 17 feet to the top 20 feet of the building.

December 21, 2006: A modification to the "Stop Work Notice" was made by Marcela Escobar-Eck, Director of DSD, to allow Sunroad to "install weather proof covering"

March 21, 2007: *The San Diego Union-Tribune* published an article describing exterior walls being installed on the top 20 feet of the building.

April 3, 2007: Councilmember Donna Frye, joined by representatives of the Community Airfields Association of San Diego and other members of the aviation community, urges Mayor Sanders to enforce the "Stop Work Notice" while also urging Sunroad to be a responsible corporate citizen and remove the top two floors of the building.



The diamond shows the approximate location of the Sunroad building.





# Spring Cleaning? RECYCLE! RECYCLE!



### For Your Car...

Home mechanics can bring used auto products, including used motor oil, antifreeze, oil filters and auto batteries,

for disposal and recycling at the City's Auto Product Recycling Event on Saturday, April 28, 2007 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Metropolitan Wastewater Operations Center, 5571 Topaz Way,

located on the corner of Kearny Villa Rd and Topaz Way, San Diego, CA 92123.

The service is free to City residents and proof of residency is required. The maximum transportation limit is 10 gallons and commercial waste is not permitted.

The Auto Product Recycling Events are sponsored by the City of San Diego and the California Integrated Waste Management Board. For more information, please call (858) 694-7000.

### For Your Electronics...

Electronic waste, or e-waste, includes cell phones, computer monitors, computer printers, computer processing units (CPUs), cordless phones, laptop computers, radios, telephone answering ma-

chines, DVD/VHS players, VCRs and other electronic devices that contain a circuit board. According to recent research from the Environmental Protection Agency, the amount of e-waste produced is growing at a rate three times faster than municipal trash. With technology constantly being updated, the lifespan of electronics in the home is rapidly diminishing and the need for recycling these items is more important than ever. E-waste may contain heavy metals such as mercury and lead; which, if placed in the landfill, can harm people and the environment.

### For Your Documents...

San Diegans can recycle their outdated tax files for free during Tax File Recycling, which runs from April 8 through April 21, 2007 at the Miramar Recycling Center.

The fifth annual event is sponsored by the City of San Diego and Allan Company. Allan Company will provide secure containers at the Miramar Recycling Center for residents to drop off old files, which are securely stored before they are shredded at an offsite location.

"Recyclable paper continues to be a large percentage of

all waste buried in the Miramar Landfill," said Elmer Heap, director of the Environmental Services Department. "The City now accepts bagged, shredded paper through our curbside recycling program. For those residents without curbside collection or home paper shredders, this confidential recycling service ensures that all San Diego



residents have a safe alternative for recycling their tax files."

Tax file recycling is available to San Diego residents only. Businesses can find document shredding services in the "Yellow Pages" under "Business Records Destruction." Be sure to check with a tax professional regarding how long copies of tax files should be retained. For more information about recycling tax files, please call the Environmental Services Department customer service at (858) 694-7000.



Working and non-working electronic devices may be acceptable for donation for reuse or repair. Call your favorite local thrift store, charity or non-profit for information regarding items accepted. For more information, visit the Electronic Product Management Directory at www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Electronics.



## Come Volunteer at the Mission Valley Preserve!

The Friends of Mission Valley Preserve invite you to take part in the many upcoming volunteer opportunities at the Mission Valley Preserve.

### **April 21st: Regular Gardening Activities**

Join the Friends for their regular 3rd Saturday gardening and help care for the wonderful native plant garden. Regular volunteers are always needed. Volunteers can begin at 9:00 am at the garden located on Friars Road near Napa Street.

#### April 28th

**Garden Improvements and Mural Painting Project**: Join the Friends as they partner with the San Diego River Park Foundation, Mission Valley Rotary Club and others as they plant in the garden, paint a new mural and make other improvements. The event begins at 8:30 am at the garden.

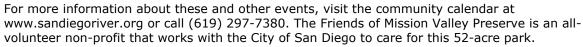




**Trash Cleanup**: The Friends will once again be participating in the annual Creek to Bay Cleanup Day! Volunteers are needed to pick up trash and other debris. Volunteers should meet at the Cottonwood Grove at the west end of Sefton Field off of Hotel Circle Place, beginning at 9:00 am.

#### May 19th

Join the community for a River Days celebration at the Garden from 9:00 am to noon. There are more than 30 events planned to celebrate the San Diego River. Look for more information on this event in May's Frye Lights!







## Ever Wanted to Adopt a Turtle?

It's that time of year again when our friendly turtles and tortoises have come out of hibernation. Like last year, the San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society is overloaded with their little friends and would love to place them in good homes.

If you or someone you know may be interested in adopting a turtle or tortoise, please visit the San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society website at www.sdturtle.org and explore the descriptions and care sheets of the different species. Adoption is easy! All adopters need is a Society membership (\$25/year) which includes a monthly, informative newsletter, and then to have their yard approved by the Society.

For more information, contact your local "foster moms":

Del Mar, Lynn (858) 481-9359 La Mesa, Anne (619) 589-5169 Lemon Grove, Summer (619) 286-8733 Pt. Loma, Nicole (619) 203-3396

The Society will also be holding an Annual Show and Plant Sale on July 21 and 22 in Balboa Park. Stop by to check out the display of exotic turtles and tortoises.

















### Be a Part of Mission Valley Planning!

The Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee is an all-volunteer group with its primary purpose being to advise the City Council, Planning Commission and other governmental agencies as may be appropriate in the initial preparation, adoption of, implementation of, or amendment to the general or community plan as it pertains to the area of areas of influence of Mission Valley.

Currently two vacancies exist in Class II, described as a person (or person representing a business entity) paying property taxes on any parcel of real property in the community. One position has a term which expires in March of 2008. The term for the other position expires in March 2010.

The Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at noon, in the Mission Valley Library Community Room on Fenton Parkway. The next meeting is on Wednesday, May 2, 2007 and is open to the public.

Anyone interested in being considered for election, or for more information, please contact Lisa M. Gualco at (619) 543-8111 ext. 102 or email Lisa at Igualco@pmrg.com.



# Councilmember Frye to Help Celebrate North Clairemont Library's 45th!

The Friends of the North Clairemont Branch Library are holding an Open House on Wednesday, April 18, 2007 as the library celebrates its 45th Anniversary!

Clowns and Crafts will entertain children from 4:00 - 6:00 pm, followed by refreshments, music,

and reminiscing for adults.
Councilmember Frye will
attend to speak and share
memories at 6:00 pm.
This happy occasion



share their experiences as well.

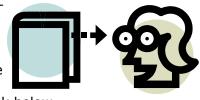
The North Clairemont Branch is located 4616 Clairemont Drive at the intersection of Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Please call the library at (858) 581-9931 for more information or current operating hours.

### Docket Materials Now Available Online

The City Clerk recently announced the latest customer service innovation: on-line docket exhibit back-up material. Prior to this new service, customers either had to come to the Office of the City Clerk or phone and request copies of the material submitted as back-up material for each item on the City Council Agenda.

Starting with the March 26th docket, the Clerk's office staff began scanning and uploading this ma-

terial to make it available electronically. The information will be posted by item within the body of the Expanded City Coun-



cil Agenda. A hyperlink below the item number and title will read: "View referenced exhibit back-up material."

The City Clerk is very excited about this implementation and will continue to look for ways of using technology to improve access to information.

Councilmember Frye commends Liz Maland, City Clerk, for this new service that improves the accessibility of information for the public.





### Important Phone Numbers

### **District Six Community Meetings**

### **Balboa Avenue Citizens Advisory Committee**

Place: Clairemont Community Service Center

4731 Clairemont Drive

When: 4th Wednesday/Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

### **Clairemont Town Council**

Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria

4150 Ute Drive

When: 1st Thursday/Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

### **Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee**

Place: Clairemont Friendship Senior Center

4425 Bannock Ave. When: 3rd Tuesday/Month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

### **Kearny Mesa Planning Group**

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library

9005 Aero Drive

When: 3rd Wednesday/Month

Time: 12:00 p.m.

#### **Linda Vista Civic Association**

Place: Baha'i Center 6545 Alcala Knolls Drive When: 3rd Thursday/Month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

### **Linda Vista Planning Group**

Place: Linda Vista Library

2160 Ulric Street

When: 4th Monday/Month

Time: 6:00 p.m.

### **Mission Bay Park Committee**

Place: Rotating Venue When: 1st Tuesday/Month

Time: 6:00 p.m.

### **Mission Valley Community Council**

Place: Mission Valley Library

2123 Fenton Parkway

When: 3rd Wednesday/Odd Months

Time: 6:00 p.m.

### Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee

Place: Mission Valley Library

2123 Fenton Parkway

When: 1st Wednesday/Month

Time: 12:00 p.m.

### **Serra Mesa Community Council**

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library

9005 Aero Drive

When: 4th Wednesday/Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

### Serra Mesa Planning Group

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library

9005 Aero Drive

When: 3rd Thursday/Month

Time: 7:00 p.m.



Councilmember Donna Frye City Administration Building 202 C Street, MS 10A San Diego, CA 92101

### FRYE LIGHTS: CELEBRATING THE DISTRICT SIX SPIRIT



### **The District Six Staff:**

Steven Hadley Chief of Staff

Lisa Gonzalez Senior Policy Analyst

Kevin Smith Senior Policy Advisor

Mary Ann Kempczenski Keith Corry Pari Sanati-Zaker Kristin Camper-Wozniak Council Representatives

Lee Chiles Mayes
Executive Assistant/Scheduler

Mary Ann Kempczenski
NR&C Committee Consultant

Register to receive updates & event information from Councilmember Frye by signing up in the "Frye Lights" box at www.sandiego.gov/cd6!

### To Contact Councilmember Frye:

Phone: (619) 236-6616

Fax: (619) 236-7329

**Address:** 

202 "C" Street, M.S. 10A

San Diego, CA 92101

E-Mail:

DonnaFrye@sandiego.gov

Web Site:

www.sandiego.gov/cd6